

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1 to 14 without prejudice and add the following new claims

15 to 28:

Claims 1 to 14.(canceled)

15.(new) A lead-free optical glass having a refractive index n_d of $1.55 \leq n_d \leq 1.60$, an Abbe number v_d of $54 \leq v_d \leq 63$ and a transformation temperature $T_g \leq 500^{\circ}\text{C}$, wherein said glass is free of Li_2O , free of CuO and comprises a composition, in percent by weight, based on oxide content, of:

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| P_2O_5 | 43 - 56 |
| ZnO | 21 - 36 |
| Al_2O_3 | 0 - 6 |
| <hr/> | |
| Na_2O | 0.5 - 16 |
| K_2O | 0 - 8 |
| $\Sigma \text{M}_2\text{O}$ | ≤ 16 |
| <hr/> | |
| MgO | 0 - 5 |
| CaO | 0 - 5 |
| BaO | 3 - 14 |
| <hr/> | |
| B_2O_3 | 0 - 8 |
| La_2O_3 | 0 - 7, |

wherein $\Sigma \text{M}_2\text{O}$ is a sum total amount of all alkali metal oxides present.

16.(new) The lead-free optical glass as defined in claim 15, containing from 0.5 to 7 percent by weight of said La_2O_3 .

17.(new) The lead-free optical glass as defined in claim 15, and free of arsenic.

18.(new) The lead-free optical glass as defined in claim 15, containing, in percent by weight, as refining agent, at least one of: from 0 to 1 percent by weight, Sb_2O_3 ; from 0 to 1 percent by weight, SnO ; from 0 to 1 percent by weight, $NaCl$; from 0 to 1 percent by weight, SO_4^{2-} ; and from 0 to 1 percent by weight, F^- .

19.(new) A lead-free optical glass having a refractive index n_d of $1.56 \leq n_d \leq 1.59$, an Abbe number v_d of $55 \leq v_d \leq 62$ and a transformation temperature $T_g \leq 500^\circ C$, wherein said glass is free of Li_2O , free of CuO and comprises a composition, in percent by weight, based on oxide content, of:

| | |
|------------------|-----------|
| P_2O_5 | 44 - 55 |
| ZnO | 22 - 32 |
| Al_2O_3 | 0 - 5 |
| <hr/> | |
| Na_2O | 5 - 15 |
| K_2O | 0 - 8 |
| ΣM_2O | ≤ 15 |
| <hr/> | |
| MgO | 0 - 5 |
| CaO | 0 - 5 |
| $\Sigma MgO+CaO$ | ≤ 8 |
| BaO | 4 - 13 |
| <hr/> | |
| B_2O_3 | 0 - 8 |
| La_2O_3 | 0.5 - 5, |

wherein ΣM_2O is a sum total amount of all alkali metal oxides present.

20.(new) The lead-free optical glass as defined in claim 19, and free of arsenic.

21.(new) The lead-free optical glass as defined in claim 19, containing, in percent by weight, as refining agent, at least one of: from 0 to 1 percent by weight, Sb_2O_3 ; from 0 to 1 percent by weight, SnO ; from 0 to 1 percent by weight, $NaCl$; from 0 to 1 percent by weight, SO_4^{2-} ; and from 0 to 1 percent by weight, F^- .

22.(new) A lead-free optical glass having a refractive index n_d of $1.56 \leq n_d \leq 1.59$, an Abbe number v_d of $55 \leq v_d \leq 62$ and a transformation temperature $T_g \leq 450^\circ C$, wherein said glass is free of Li_2O , free of CuO and comprises a composition, in percent by weight, based on oxide content, of:

| | |
|------------------|-----------|
| P_2O_5 | 46 - 53 |
| ZnO | 24 - 31 |
| Al_2O_3 | 0 - 3 |
| <hr/> | |
| Na_2O | 6 - 13 |
| K_2O | 0 - 6 |
| ΣM_2O | ≤ 13 |
| <hr/> | |
| MgO | 0 - 4 |
| CaO | 0 - 4 |
| $\Sigma MgO+CaO$ | ≤ 5 |
| BaO | 4 - 11 |
| <hr/> | |
| B_2O_3 | 0 - 5 |
| La_2O_3 | 0.5 - 4, |

wherein ΣM_2O is a sum total amount of all alkali metal oxides present.

23.(new) The lead-free optical glass as defined in claim 22, and free of arsenic.

24.(new) The lead-free optical glass as defined in claim 22, containing, in percent by weight, as refining agent, at least one of: from 0 to 1 percent by weight, Sb_2O_3 ; from 0 to 1 percent by weight, SnO ; from 0 to 1 percent by weight, NaCl ; from 0 to 1 percent by weight, SO_4^{2-} ; and from 0 to 1 percent by weight, F^- .

25.(new) A lead-free optical glass having a refractive index n_d of $1.56 \leq n_d \leq 1.59$, an Abbe number v_d of $55 \leq v_d \leq 62$ and a transformation temperature $T_g \leq 400^\circ\text{C}$, said glass comprising a composition, in percent by weight, based on oxide content, of:

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| P_2O_5 | 48 - 51 |
| ZnO | 25 - 29 |
| Al_2O_3 | 0.5 - 2.5 |
| <hr/> | |
| Na_2O | 7 - 12 |
| K_2O | 0 - 4 |
| $\Sigma \text{M}_2\text{O}$ | ≤ 12 |
| <hr/> | |
| MgO | 0 - 3 |
| CaO | 0.5 - 3.5 |
| $\Sigma \text{MgO}+\text{CaO}$ | ≤ 3.5 |
| BaO | 5 - 10 |
| <hr/> | |
| La_2O_3 | 0.5 - 3.5. |

wherein $\Sigma \text{M}_2\text{O}$ is a sum total amount of all alkali metal oxides present.

26.(new) The lead-free optical glass as defined in claim 25, and free of arsenic.

27.(new) The lead-free optical glass as defined in claim 25, containing, in percent by weight, as refining agent, at least one of: from 0 to 1 percent by weight, Sb_2O_3 ; from 0 to 1 percent by weight, SnO ; from 0 to 1 percent by weight, $NaCl$; from 0 to 1 percent by weight, SO_4^{2-} ; and from 0 to 1 percent by weight, F^- .

28.(new) An optical element comprising a lead-free glass as defined in claim 15.